



Maryland Agriculture Data

Weekly Crop and Weather Report

2002
CENSUS OF
AGRICULTURE

MD-CW2802

October 7, 2002

Soybean Harvest Begins

Maryland counties received very little to no rain last week, allowing farmers 6.4 **days suitable for field work** such as harvesting soybeans. At 7 percent completion, **soybean harvest** has just begun in many areas, 5 percent behind last year, and 2 percent behind the five year average. Sixty-four percent of the crop is **dropping leaves**, 12 percent ahead of last year, and 14 percent ahead of the five year average. Reported soybean yields are low due to the very dry conditions this growing season.

The dry weather is allowing small grains to be planted at a rapid rate. **Barley seeding** is more than halfway complete at 56 percent, 24 percent more than last year, and 25 percent ahead of the five year average. Barley is emerging in mostly good condition with 6 percent rated fair, 88 percent good, and 6 percent excellent. **Winter wheat** is 24 percent planted, 16 percent ahead of last year, and 15 percent ahead of the average. Wheat is rated 9 percent in fair condition, 73 percent good, and 18 percent excellent.

Soil moisture levels dropped due to the dry conditions. **Topsoil** is rated 31 percent adequate, 57 percent short, and 12 percent very short. Eighteen percent of **subsoil** is rated in adequate supply, 45 percent short, and 37 percent very short.

MARYLAND'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 6, 2002 (PERCENT)

ITEM	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1997-2001
Harvesting Progress:				
Apples	67	65	56	61
Corn, for grain	69	66	45	42
Sorghum	20	10	39	26
Soybeans	7	2	12	9
Crop Progress:				
Sorghum, turning color	81	78	100	93
Sorghum, mature	51	43	83	58
Soybeans, turning color	86	82	79	75
Soybeans, dropping leaves	64	52	52	50
Small Grain Seeding:				
Barley	56	17	32	31
Winter Wheat	24	9	8	9
Hay Harvested:				
Other hay, 4 th cutting	40	34	78	75
Alfalfa, 4 th cutting	82	70	82	77

CROP CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 6, 2002 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Barley	0	0	6	88	6
Winter Wheat	0	0	9	73	18
Soybeans	33	24	28	15	0
Range & Pasture	16	28	39	16	1

Carrie Davies
Mathematical Statistician

Norman Bennett
State Statistician

Precipitation and Departures From Normal, Through September 30, 2002

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50 Harry S Truman Parkway, Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(410) 841-5740 Fax (410) 841-5755

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